Wonderful becomes normal...

...with the gift of water in your will
One day, the wonder of water will be normal for everyone, everywhere – thanks to you

As one of WaterAid’s Voices from the Field Officers, I know what a huge difference gifts in wills from people like you can make.

I’ve travelled all over Madagascar to document the extraordinary work that your support helps to make possible – gathering photos, interviews and films from countless communities. Every village I visit has been hugely empowered by the wonderful gift of water. Each time I go back to a community, I’m always amazed at how much it has grown and prospered.

I also know how life-changing this can be because, as a child growing up in Madagascar, I had to use dirty water myself. Today, I’m happy to say that life is very different for my children and they enjoy all the good things that can happen thanks to clean water.

Now that the people of Madagascar have been given the training and tools they need to keep this water flowing into their villages, I’m sure that everyone here will continue to thrive – as will their children and the many generations that follow them.

Warm regards,

Ernest Randriarimalala
WaterAid, Madagascar
At WaterAid, we believe in a world where every single person has clean water and a decent toilet. A world where dirty water no longer kills. A world where children are able to go to school and one day fulfil their dreams. A world where parents, freed from the burden of water collection, can earn an income to support their families. A world where water-related diseases are rare and children are healthy with time to play. If you decide to leave a gift in your will to WaterAid, you can help us make our vision a reality.
One day, the wonder of Shana bringing water to school children in her village...
Shana had to leave school and take over household duties when she was very young. Thanks in part to the gifts supporters leave us in their wills, she had the training she needed to construct over ten rainwater harvesting tanks in Wawa Bar, Nicaragua.

Shana herself says: “The water we had access to before was a light brown colour and had an unpleasant smell, children in the community would get sick frequently. Life is so different now.”

By leaving a gift in your will, you can help train the next generation of people like Shana to keep the water flowing and provide a lasting and life-saving supply of water to their villages.

How you’re helping to harvest rainwater in Nicaragua

Cheap, simple and effective, Shana’s harvesting tanks work by collecting rainwater to create a reliable supply of clean water throughout the year.
One day, the wonder of Shelly watering, growing, eating and selling her own crops...
...will be normal for every family who has ever gone hungry when their crops have failed.

Shelly’s village in the Ankazobe district of Madagascar relies heavily on small-scale farming. But without a reliable water source, the land used to be dry and infertile, and chronic malnutrition was rife.

However, as Shelly explains, things have changed since WaterAid installed water points in her village: “We were amazed to see how having non-stop running water near our homes has changed our lives in different ways. It is a big opportunity for us”.

The simple gift of water in your will can give people like Shelly the resources to not only grow their own crops, but also their own businesses – allowing them to survive and thrive well into the future.

“We haven’t yet sold our tomatoes but just from selling our green vegetables, we now have about 100,000 Ariary as profit.”

Shelly, farmer, Madagascar
One day, the wonder of a tap being turned on in Tombohuaun will be normal for every child who’s had to risk their life drinking dirty water.

The children of Tombohuaun will never forget the day clean water came pouring out of the pump for the very first time. A gift in your will could help us install this simple technology in more villages – providing a lasting supply of clean water that will give a happier and healthy childhood to countless more children.

Our promise to you

- Your will is personal and we will never ask you to tell us your decision (although we’d love to have the opportunity to say thank you).
- We understand that family and friends always come first.
- We will never put you under any pressure – it’s your decision to make in your own time.
- If you choose to remember WaterAid in your will, we will use your gift carefully so it achieves the greatest impact for the families and communities we work with.
- You can change your mind at any time.
With an unreliable water supply, Juliana used to have to wash her hands in a jug while delivering a baby.

Now that fresh water flows from taps, she is seeing less infections and mothers can hold their babies, free from the fear of water-related illness.

One day, the wonder of Juliana delivering a baby safely will be normal for every midwife and joyful new mum.

Why do I need to make a will now?

Your will is your way to ensure that what you want to happen, happens.

Without it, your estate will be divided according to the law – and this may not be the way you would like your money and possessions to be distributed. But when you make a will, you’ll ensure that your last wishes are met, your loved ones are looked after and that the causes you hold dear can continue to transform lives.
Since WaterAid built the girls’ toilets at Chamagaha Primary School, Cynthia has achieved something amazing: she came top of her class and is determined to keep it that way.

Before, with no decent toilets, girls like Cynthia had to stay at home during their periods. And their headmistress would see their performance drop as a result.

Now Cynthia has decent toilets at school, her confidence is growing and she’s excited about the future, saying, “I do not have to miss school. Why would I not compete with boys.”
There are three main types of gift that you might consider leaving to WaterAid.

**A share of your estate**
Known as a ‘residuary legacy’, it is a percentage of what remains of your estate after all other gifts and expenses have been paid. One of the advantages of a residuary legacy is that it will always stay in proportion, because it is a percentage. So you don't need to worry about changing your will if you have less to leave than you expected.

**A specific sum**
This is a gift of a set amount, called a ‘pecuniary legacy’.

**A specific item**
This could be something valuable such as an antique, painting, property or shares.

If you leave a gift to WaterAid in your will, the value of your gift will be deducted from your estate before Inheritance Tax is applied, so it could reduce the amount of tax paid.

We recommend you discuss your will and the type of gift you might like to leave to WaterAid with your solicitor.

---

**Seven simple steps to make a will**

1. Make a list of what to leave
2. Decide who you want to remember in your will
3. Ask two people you trust to be executors
4. Talk to a solicitor and ask about inheritance tax
5. Keep your will safe and tell your executors where it is
6. Let your family know if you’ve included WaterAid in your will
7. Update your will if your wishes change
Your questions answered

1. Do I need a solicitor to write my will?
   No, but a solicitor can offer legal advice and ensure your will is valid and that your wishes will be met. You can also use a will writer or online will provider.

2. What if I change my mind about my will?
   We understand that circumstances can change and you can update your will at any time.

3. How can I include a gift to WaterAid?
   You just need to give your solicitor our registered address and charity numbers, and they will do all the rest.

4. If I’ve already made a will, do I need to make a new one?
   No – simply complete a codicil from and store it with your will. A codicil form is read alongside your will and allows you to make changes to it at any time. You can find a codicil form in the back of this guide.

Our details for your solicitor

Your solicitor will need our registered address and charity numbers, which are:

WaterAid,
6th Floor,
20 Canada Square,
London, E14 5NN

Registered charity numbers 288701 (England and Wales) and SC039479 (Scotland)
A powerful pledge to leave a better world

Access to clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene brings so much more than something safe to drink and somewhere hygienic to go to the toilet. It brings health, education and livelihoods. It brings happiness, hope and dignity.

By including a gift in your will, your support can continue long into the future – and help bring these life-changing benefits to everyone.

Together, we can create a world where the days of villagers walking miles to collect water are a distant memory. A world where children missing out on education because of waterborne diseases is unthinkable. A world where no one is afraid to drink the very thing they need to stay alive.

You can help make this future a reality. We've already achieved so much and we will not stop until the wonder of water becomes normal for every community, every family and every child.

“What I love about WaterAid is that they empower people to deliver and manage the taps and toilets in their own communities. By leaving this gift to WaterAid it’s a way for me to continue doing good after I’m gone.”

Meryl Knapp, West Yorkshire, WaterAid Supporter
WaterAid is officially established on 21 July 1981. Our first projects start in Zambia and Sri Lanka.

1988: Our supporters help us reach 350,000 people with clean water.

1993: Work starts on our 1,000th project. And our single largest water supply scheme reaches 50,000 people in Ethiopia.

1999: We reached six million people with clean water enabling them to build better lives.

2015: WaterAid successfully campaigns for the UN to include water and sanitation goals as part of their efforts to end extreme poverty around the world.

2016: We reached over 1,159,500 people with decent toilets.

A lasting commitment to lasting change

We’ve reached 25.8 million people with clean water, 25.1 million with decent toilets and 18.3 million with good hygiene, and counting...

A gift in your will means that your support will live on and help us reach our goal of clean water for everyone, everywhere.
A view of Antsesika village and its beautiful landscape filled with manually terraced fields. Ambohiborona commune, Faratsiho district, Vakinankaratra region, Madagascar. WaterAid/ Ernest Randriarimalala
Thank you.